

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 USIA-06 /016 W

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R 271300Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9188

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, EC, PINR

IV ABEL CASTILLO ECHEVERRIA

REF: (A) 75 QUITO 3983, (B) 75 QUITO 9247

1. IV CANDIDATE ABEL CASTILLO ECHEVERRIA ABLE TO TRAVEL
MID-APRIL.

2. CASTILLO CURRENTLY HOLDS THE POSITIONS OF NEWS CHIEF
OF TV CHANNEL 2 AND CHIEF OF EDITORIAL SECTION, "EL TELEGRAFO"
NEWSPAPER, GUAYAQUIL. HE IS PROBABLY THE BRIGHTEST YOUNG
MAN CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN THE VERY COMPETITIVE NEWS FIELD
IN GUAYAQUIL AND HAS INFLUENCE AND PRESTIGE FAR BEYOND
HIS 30 YEARS. OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT HE HAS DAY-TO-DAY
CONTROL OF THE CONTENT OF NEWS BOTH ON TV AND THROUGH
THE PRESS AND IS ONE OF THE BRANCH POST'S MOST IMPORTANT
CONTACTS, MR. CASTILLO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACQUISITION
OF MOST OF THE EQUIPMENT USED IN CHANNEL 2 AND "EL TELEGRAFO",
SUCH AS THE EXPECTED PURCHASE OF NEW COLD-TYPE PRESSES
FOR MODERNIZATION OF THE NEWSPAPER. CONSIDERED A PRIME
CONDUIT TO THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR,
POST FEELS THAT A VISIT TO THE U.S. WILL HELP
GREATLY IN CEMENTING A LONG-TERM COOPERATIVE EFFORT
WITH THE COUNTRY'S MAIN MEDIA OUTLETS.

3. BIO-DATA: BORN IN GUAYAQUIL, AUGUST 2, 1946.
MARRIED. TWO CHILDREN. SECONDARY STUDIES AT CHARLOTTE
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HALL MILITARY ACADEMY, CHARLOTTE HALL, MARYLAND. UNI-

UNIVERSITY STUDIES OF JOURNALISM AT UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, SPAIN, 1964, AND AT UNIVERSITY OF GUAYAQUIL, 1965-67. HAS A "LICENCIADO" DEGREE FROM THE LATTER INSTITUTION. PREVIOUSLY HE WAS EDITORIAL SECRETARY OF "EL TELEGRAFO" NEWSPAPER. HAS TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY IN LATIN AMERICA AS A TOURIST AND RESIDENT SINCE HIS FATHER IS A DIPLOMAT. IN 1975, ON OCCASION OF THE OPEC MEETING, HE ACCOMPANIED THE PRESIDENT IN HIS TRIP TO ALGERIA, ROMANIA AND VENEZUELA. HAS GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH AND NO INTERPRETER WOULD BE REQUIRED. HE IS VISA ELIGIBLE.

4. CASTILLO IS INTERESTED IN ANY AND ALL NEWSPAPER AND TV OPERATIONS PARTICULARLY ON A RELATIVELY SMALL SCALE. ACCORDINGLY, FOLLOWING PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS ARE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION.

(A) VISIT NETWORK NEWSROOM IN NEW YORK AND SIT THROUGH ACTUAL BROADCAST. CHANCE TO MEET ANCHORMAN SUCH AS CRONKITE, REASONER, ETC.

(B) AN INTENSIVE VISIT OF 3 OR 4 DAYS TO A SMALL CITY TV STATION WITH EMPHASIS ON ALL ASPECTS OF OPERATIONS AND PRODUCTION OF NEWS PROGRAMS. SUGGEST MIDWEST OR SOUTHWESTERN CITY OF APPROXIMATELY 200,000 POPULATION.

(C) INTENSIVE VISIT TO SMALL CITY NEWSPAPER SUCH AS THE BILLINGS GAZETTE, ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE, OR EUGENE REGISTER-GUARD TO STUDY TOTAL OPERATION OF PAPER INCLUDING USE OF COLD PRINT PROCESSES AT A SMALL SCALE.

(D) INTERVIEW TITH DEAN OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM CONCERNING GRADUATE PROGRAMS. A PROF. ARNOLD WHO VISITED GUAYAQUIL SHOULD BE CONTACTED.

(E) VISIT TO CHICAGO SUN TIMES. SHOULD CONTACT ROBERTO SURO WHO IS REPORTER OF PAPER AND RELATIVE OF CASTILLO.

(F) SIT IN ON NESSEN WHITEHOUSE BRIEFING AND STATE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING.
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(G) CROSS PATHS WITH A PRIMARY CAMPAIGN TO TAKE GOOD LOOK AT GRASSROOTS ELECTION PROCESS. POSSIBLE MEETING WITH CANDIDATE AND CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN.

(H) TAKE IN ONE OR MORE BICENTENNIAL EVENTS.

5. CASTILLO HAS REQUESTED THAT CARMEN SURO-BREDIE BE

ADVISED OF HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. SHE IS A USIA
OFFICER AND IS POSTED TO D.C. ALSO, CU SHOULD CONTACT
MRS. PIEDAD LEVY DE SURO WHO IS CULTURAL ATTACHE AT
ECUADOREAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. DECLASSIFY UPON
RECEIPT.
BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, VISITOR EXCHANGE, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976QUITO01587
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760075-0372
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976025/aaaaadla.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 QUITO 3983, 76 QUITO 9247
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OEXC, PINR, EC, US, (CASTILLO, ABEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006